

## Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, November 21, 1877, with transcript

Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel (Hubbard) Bell. Paris, November 21st, 1877. Mrs. A. G. Bell, 115 Jermyn St., London. My sweet darling wife:

Here I am in the funniest little room imaginable writing my first letter to my “wife.” Is it not strange? We have been married for more than four months and yet this is my first letter to you since then! We had quite a rough passage across the channel, and as I secretly and quietly placed — (something!!) — in my pocket for safe keeping in anticipation of a dire calamity — I thought of you and and rejoiced that I had had courage to leave you behind. Such a pitching and tossing as we had — and how ludicrous the passengers looked with their long white faces — and each one with a basin on his knee! I was innocent of basins and enjoyed the voyage from Folkestone to Boulogne pretty fairly. I commenced the voyage with a hearty breakfast and really felt I had appeased my appetite — but alas! alas! accidents happened and by the time I reached Boulogne I was again famishing and had to make a second meal.

I reached Paris about dusk — telegraphed to you — and drove here. I have seen no one yet. Letters await me from Mr. Le Gay, and Mr. Aylmer making appointments for tomorrow. As Monsieur Niaudet has not made his appearance and it is now past eight o'clock I am going out to try and find Monsieur Favarger. If he can spare time tomorrow he may be of great use to me as an interpreter — and beside I want to see him for the sake of Auld Lang Syne.

Presentiments are not always correct and nothing has happened to me yet. But — my darling — you are so nervous that you must try for my sake — for your own sake — and for sake to avoid premonitions of evil. I wish I could put my arms round you and give you a good hug and banish all anxious thoughts from your mind you dear dear DEAR little wife.

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If you feel anxious or worried please take up a novel right off and read all anxious thoughts away.

I wonder what you have been doing all day — and whether you have decided to go to Sophie's or to stay in Jermyn St. all by yourself.

Some one has come for me — So

10:30 p. m.

It was Monsieur Niaudet and we have been talking ever since eight. I shall see Mr. Le Gay at 10 o'clock tomorrow then go to Mr. Aylmer's — return here by 12:30 for lunch.

In the afternoon I am to visit Mr. Pierret — Superintendent of French Telegraphe — and the Minister of War — and intend to give them telephones for experimental purposes. I have arranged with Monsieur Niaudet to have my Lecture translated and published in France. He to undertake the expenses and I to receive one-half the profits.

I thought to have written more but must stop. Good night my own sweet May. I wish I could give you just one kiss. It is so lonely without you.

Your loving husband. Alec.